

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DAKAR 04165 011506Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 NEA-11 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10
L-03 SIG-03 MMO-01 OIC-02 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05
HEW-04 /126 W
-----037347 012324Z /41

R 011155Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4317
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAKAR 4165

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ILO, ELAB
SUBJECT: ILO 1978 CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 127537

1. CHARGE DISCUSSED CONTENTS OF REFERENCE INSTRUCTIONS
MAY 30 WITH MINISTER OF LABOR ALIOUNE DIAGNE AND ON MAY 31
WITH BABACAR DIAGNE, PRESIDENT OF CNTS (NATIONAL
CONFEDERATION OF SENEGALESE WORKERS). LEFT AIDE MEMOIRE
DETAILING US POSITION WITH BOTH OFFICIALS. BOTH SENEGALESE
LABOR LEADERS RESPONDED POSITIVELY, EXPRESSING HOPE THAT
US WOULD REJOIN ILO AND BELIEF THAT POLITICIZATION OF ILO HAD
ALREADY PEAKED, AND THAT FUTURE WOULD SEE ORGANIZATION
RETURNING TO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ISSUES WHICH
CONSTITUTE ITS ORIGINAL MANDATE.

2. FOR MINISTER OF LABOR ALIOUNE DIAGNE, WHO WILL BE
CHAIRMAN OF SENEGALESE DELEGATION, THIS WILL BE FIRST ILO
CONFERENCE. HE BECAME LABOR MINISTER IN MARCH 1978
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 DAKAR 04165 011506Z

CABINET RESUFFLE FOLLOWING SENEGALESE ELECTIONS.
FORMERLY SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE GOVERNMENT, DIAGNE
HAS HAD A LONG CAREER IN HIGH GOVERNMENT OFFICES. HE
SAID SENEGAL'S BEHAVIOR AT ILO CONFERENCE WOULD BE
BASED ON THREE PRINCIPLES OF RESPECT FOR NATIONAL
SOVEREIGNTY, PROMOTION OF DIALOGUE AMONG MEMBERS, AND
MEASURES TO RENDER ILO MORE EFFECTIVE. WITH RESPECT TO

US, HE WOULD LIKE TO ADD A FOURTH MAJOR PRINCIPLE, UNIVERSALITY. ALIOUNE DIAGNE REGRETTED US NO LONGER PRESENT IN ILO; OUR ABSENCE MADE PRINCIPLE OF UNIVERSALITY IMPOSSIBLE. LACK OF US FINANCIAL SUPPORT WAS ALSO SERIOUSLY AFFECTING ILO ABILITY TO CARRY OUT ITS PROGRAMS.

3. LABOR MINISTER DIAGNE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR EMBASSY'S DETAILED AIDE MEMOIRE WHICH HE SAID HE WOULD STUDY AND CONSIDER CAREFULLY. HE HAD BEEN LABOR MINISTER FOR ONLY JUST OVER TWO MONTHS NOW AND WAS STILL LEARNING HIS DOSSIERS.

4. ALIOUNE DIAGNE'S NAMESAKE, BABACAR DIAGNE, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF SENEGALESE WORKERS (CNTS) VETERAN FIGURE OF SENEGALESE LABOR AFFAIRS, WAS COMPLETELY CONVERSANT WITH ALL MAJOR ISSUES RAISED IN REFTEL. HE SAID THIS WILL BE HIS SIXTH ILO CONFERENCE. BABACAR DIAGNE SAID US WAS GREATLY MISSED IN ILO BECAUSE OF ITS BROAD EXPERIENCE IN LABOR AFFAIRS AND ITS COMMITMENT TO WORKERS IMPROVEMENT AND TRAINING. AFRICA, AS THE PRIME BENEFICIARY OF ILO TRAINING AND OTHER PROGRAMS, PARTICULARLY FELT A LACK OF US PRESENCE.

5. ON SPECIFIC ISSUES, BABACAR DIAGNE THOUGHT THAT THE TREND TOWARDS POLITICIZATION WHICH RESULTED IN US WITHDRAWAL HAD ALREADY PEAKED AND THAT MEMBERS WERE NOW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 DAKAR 04165 011506Z

WILLING TO RETURN TO THE MORE TRADITIONAL CONCERNS OF THE ILO, AND TO RESPECT ILO'S OWN INTERNAL RULES. HE ALSO EXPRESSED PLEASURE THAT DG HAD BEEN ABLE TO ARRANGE SPECIAL MISSION TO ISRAEL AND OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, SAYING THIS WAY SITUATION SHOULD HAVE BEEN HANDLED IN FIRST PLACE. BABACAR DIAGNE ALSO AGREED ON NEED FOR AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 17, REMARKING THAT NO ILO MEMBER SHOULD BE JUDGED, CONDEMNED, OR CENSORED WITHOUT FULL INQUIRY AND OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK. ON QUESTION OF SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF GOVERNING BODY, DIAGNE WAS LESS SYMPATHETIC TO US VIEWPOINT. HE SAID THIS WAS MATTER FOR DISCUSSION, BUT NON-PERMANENT MEMBERS OF GOVERNING BODY FELT STRONGLY THEY WERE NOT GETTING FAIR AND EQUAL TREATMENT.

6. SURVEYING THE AFRICAN LABOR SCENE, BABACAR DIAGNE SAID RECENT POLITICAL UPHEAVALS IN AF COUNTRIES, REMOVAL FROM THE SCENE OF SEVERAL AFRICAN LABOR LEADERS, AND ARAB/AFRICAN FRICTIONS WOULD PRACTICALLY GUARANTEE SERIES OF FIRST CLASS ROWS OVER AFRICAN SEATS IN ILO GOVERNING BODY.

7. BABACAR DIAGNE ASKED IF US WOULD BE REPRESENTED BY OBSERVE DELEGATION AT JUNE ILO CONFERENCE, AND IF SO,

WHO WOULD BE ON DELEGATION. PLEASE ADVISE. IN ALL
EVENTS, RECOMMEND BOTH DIAGNES, ESPECIALLY BABACAR, AS
EXCELLENT CONTACTS FOR US OFFICIALS AT GENEVA.
GALANTO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING DELEGATIONS, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978DAKAR04165
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780230-0199
Format: TEL
From: DAKAR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197806108/aaaadpfn.tel
Line Count: 120
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bba6c97d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 127537
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2166281
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ILO 1978 CONFERENCE
TAGS: ELAB, SG, ILO, (DIAGNE, BABACAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bba6c97d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014